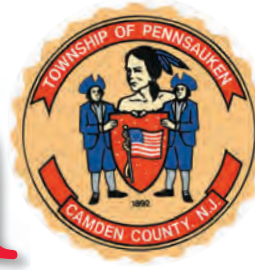


# All Around Pennsauken



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See page 11

VOL. 27, NO. 8

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

August 2022

## National Night Out In Pennsauken Held On August 2



Pennsauken's first responders are holding a special event during National Night Out, Tuesday, Aug. 2, an annual community-building campaign that is designed to make neighborhoods a safer, better place to live.

Held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Pennsauken Community Recreation Complex, 6730 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken's police officers, firefighters, and EMTs are joining forces to present a variety of displays and activities, specialized unit demonstrations, and more.

"National Night Out is all about building and reinforcing the relationship between public safety and the residents we serve," explained Pennsauken Police Chief Phil Olivo. "This year, we expect to provide another great experience for the members of our community."

According to the National Night Out website, NATW.org, "Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out across thousands of communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories and military bases worldwide on the first Tuesday in

*continued on page 23*

## Pennsauken Car And Bike Show Held On September 18

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Pennsauken's annual Car and Bike Show will be held on Sunday, Sept. 18, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Hundreds of classic cars and bikes will be on display along part of the "Maple Mile," starting at Pinsetter Bar and Bowl, the co-sponsor of the event located at 7111 Maple Ave., and extending towards Union Ave.

There will be 23 judging classes for cars, from Stock Production to 1953 to All New Cars, 2015 to Present, as well as nine judging classes for motorcycles, from Full Dresser to Antique Bikes.

As attendees stroll the show, viewing the many cars and bikes on display, they can also enjoy a variety of other activities. Food trucks will be on hand offering a variety of fare available for purchase. The Kids Zone will also be returning to the Car and Bike Show, with inflatables and balloon twisting



Pennsauken's annual Car and Bike Show returns to Maple Ave. on Sunday, Sept. 18.

for younger attendees. DJs will be playing classics and popular music throughout the event.

Each year, every effort is made to reduce the impact on the neighborhoods

along Maple Ave. and adjoining streets. Residents will have access to major thoroughways and can get in and out of the area during the event.

*continued on page 23*

## County Unveils New Track And Stadium Inside Cooper River Park

Pennsauken Mayor Jessica Rafeh joined Camden County Commissioner Jeffrey Nash, other mayors from the municipalities surrounding Cooper River Park, and local running organizations to open the \$1.2 million makeover of Jack Curtis Stadium in Camden County's most popular park.

"With the completion of this track, Cooper River Park now has two top tier locations for athletics along with its world-renowned Boathouse used for rowing," said Commissioner Jeffrey Nash, who serves as the liaison to the Parks Department. "This track can not only be utilized

*continued on page 23*



Pennsauken Mayor Jessica Rafeh spoke during the reopening of Jack Curtis Stadium at Cooper River Park.

# Look! inside

Spotted Lanternflies  
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Firefighter Hopeful Recovering  
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## Judge Petrillo Receives Proclamation For Decades Of Service



Township Committee presented Judge Steve Petrillo with a proclamation in recognition for his decades of service to the Pennsauken community.

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Retired municipal court judge Steve Petrillo recently received a proclamation

from Township Committee in recognition of his decades of service.

"It is not often that a resident has the

kind of passion to serve their community that lasts decades. To have the kind of commitment that they are willing to dedicate their time and talent to make a difference says something about their character, their heart, and their intention," said Pennsauken Mayor Jessica Rafeh during the proclamation. "Today we honor such a citizen by recognizing the Honorable Steven Petrillo for his service to our Municipal Court and for his unwavering love of Pennsauken."

A 60-year resident of Pennsauken, Judge Petrillo first started his service to the community by running for Township Committee with Geri Tabako, the first woman ever to join the local governing body and the town's first female mayor. During his 17-year tenure, Judge Petrillo had an opportunity to serve as mayor and director of public safety, and helped to develop Pennsauken's Town Watch,

the Pennsauken Bike and Community Policing Program, as well as the "Shop Pennsauken" initiative. Stepping down from Committee in 2006, Petrillo would serve as Pennsauken's municipal court judge until his retirement this year.

"I feel like it was yesterday when I first came on [Committee]. It was great time to do all the things that we did," said Petrillo. "The reason why I love Pennsauken is because we stick together. Whatever your race is, whatever your socioeconomic background is, we get along."

Judge Petrillo also encouraged the members of Township Committee to continue their work of enhancing the community and serving its residents.

"Keep doing the best thing for Pennsauken. We're behind you guys, we love you, and we're praying for you. We're proud of the things that you have done."



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**MAYOR'S****CORNER**

By Jessica Rafah,  
Mayor of  
Pennsauken  
Township

The summer is the perfect time to get together with family and friends; and in our Township, that's no exception.

On Tuesday, Aug. 2, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at our Community Recreation Complex on Westfield and Bethel avenues, Pennsauken's first responders are hosting National Night Out, a time where our police, firefighters, and EMTs can connect with our residents in a fun setting, filled with entertainment, demonstrations, and more. I hope to see many of our neighbors there.

Speaking of our first responders, they did an amazing job with the Junior Police and Junior Fire Academies last month. Some of our community's young

people got a taste of what it's actually like to be a police officer, firefighter, or EMT. Hard work was mixed in with plenty of fun, including a trip to cool off at our Municipal Pool. I, along with Deputy Mayor Nicole Roberts, and Township Committee Members Marco DiBattista, Vince Martinez, and Patrick Olivo, all had opportunities to visit with the participants during these great programs; you could see how much fun they were having!

Our wonderful summer programs are wrapping up this month, and I want to thank Juan Vazquez, our Parks and Recreation coordinator, as well as those whose hard work made all of it possible. Children still have an opportunity to sign up and enjoy fun and engaging programs, like our bowling classes and our first-ever nature camp! You can find out more at PennsaukenEvents.com.

Right at summer's end, on Sunday, Sept. 18, the Pennsauken Car and Bike

Show returns to Maple Ave. by Pinsetter Bar and Bowl. From 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., you'll be able to see so many great cars and motorcycles on display. It is a wonderful opportunity to get outdoors and enjoy a great time with our neighbors. You can find out more by reading the article on this issue's front cover.

Pennsauken will also be holding its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 15, noon to 4:00 p.m., at the Pennsauken Community Recreation Complex on Westfield Ave. We're bringing back the very popular amusement rides, a variety of food trucks, as well as tables of crafters, vendors, and community groups that highlight the diverse culture we have here. You don't want to miss out on this one! See page 25 for more.

Next month, we'll be announcing the date of the next Facebook Live with myself and Deputy Mayor Roberts, where we'll once again take an hour to have a

Q&A with our residents. You can submit your questions in advance by visiting [https://bit.ly/PennsaukenFB\\_Live](https://bit.ly/PennsaukenFB_Live).

There are even more exciting things for Pennsauken on the horizon, but we're just not ready to make any announcements yet. Please be sure to follow our social media channels (@PennsaukenTwp on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) so you can be notified as soon as we share more information.

Have a great rest of your summer and I hope to see you at one of our public events!



## PMAC Happy Hour Held On August 18

The Pennsauken-Merchantville Area Chamber of Commerce is holding a happy hour at Pinsetter Bar and Bowl, 7111 Maple Ave., Pennsauken, on Thursday, Aug. 18, beginning at 5:30 p.m. The event features drink specials and a complimentary buffet.

PMAC members can R.S.V.P. by Friday, Aug. 12, by contacting Nancy Ellis at (856) 438-0833 or [pmaclteam@gmail.com](mailto:pmaclteam@gmail.com).

## Free Concerts At Cooper River Park

The Twilight Concert Series returns to Cooper River Park this month with two free performances.

On Thursday, Aug. 4, The Weight Band brings their eclectic blend of blues, soul, and roots-rock to Pennsauken; and on Thursday, Aug. 18, audiences will enjoy

The Ledbetters, a Pearl Jam tribute band.

Both free concerts will occur at the newly renovated Jack Curtis Stadium at Cooper River Park, 5300 North Park Dr., Pennsauken, and start at 8:00 p.m.

For more information, visit [CamdenCounty.com](http://CamdenCounty.com).

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## WAGSWORLD A Hot Summer, With Growing Ivy Has Gotten My Goat

By Bob Wagner,  
AAP Columnist

The dog days of summer are upon us, and I could not care less. With the heat pushing into the 90s on a regular basis, I thank my lucky stars for the new AC unit blowing out of my dining room. I could spend the entire summer hiding in my dining room watching stupid stuff on my electronic doodoo machine.

So far this summer, my heat-induced viewing has shown me how to gently break a feral horse, build a shelter out of logs and sticks, and how to raise and shelter chickens and goats. My fascination

with little goats is shared. I was surprised to see, by my son-in-law. He wants a pygmy goat for his backyard in Cinnaminson, which is loaded with ivy. I also have an infusion of ivy growing up on my garage building, so I hope he gets a hungry goat. He is waiting patiently for the governing body to allow barnyard animals to live in his backyard. He is a fine, God-fearing, law-abiding citizen.

Here in Pennsauken, it is also forbidden by zoning law to keep "barnyard" animals. I know this because I once was in charge of enforcing those same zoning laws. I am proud to say that I kept our town safe from horses, cows, goats, chick-

ens, and even ducks and geese. No ram-paging barnyard animals ran amok in my tenure, blocking traffic and endangering small children. I always thought I should have received some award or trophy for such diligent work, but it wasn't to be.

I did, however, once bring a wandering feral sheep home to town. It was captured down in the woods of Winslow, where it had escaped from a derelict and abandoned petting zoo. Its fleece was so long it looked a lot like a short, fuzzy bigfoot creature. Folks near where I captured it thought it was some kind of urban mystery and left the sightings unreported. This was before the advent of cell phones and

Facebook, so nobody thought much of it.

Anyway, I was fishing out in the boonies one fine day, eating my lunch by the pond, when this big fuzzy sheep strolled up and begged for some of my salad. We became friends, and I brought the sheep home in my truck.

After a much-needed bath and a trim, I put Sheepy in the dog kennel out back. After a bit of thought, and being the good civil servant I was, I realized I couldn't in good conscience keep a barnyard animal in town. So I went to the clerk's office, and purchased a dog license for Sheepy. I told the clerk it was a big old she-doodle, and that was it.

After a few years with Sheepy, I grew interested in different kinds of wool, since my wife was quite a knitter, and her friends in the Merchantville Woman's Club used up yarn like popcorn. So, I found a llama, and an alpaca for the dog kennel, and got them dog licenses also. This worked okay for a while, but the neighbors got a bit worked up over the smell after one hot summer, so I gave up my critters to a "farm upstate." We even had a big neighborhood barbecue to celebrate my neighborliness.

But I do think goats could be next. There is that pesky ivy, and I think the bride wants a new dog!

## Annual Labor Day Wreath Laying Ceremony Held September 2

Labor leaders, public officials and members of the local community will gather in Pennsauken on Friday, Sept. 2, to celebrate workers across our country at the annual AFL-CIO wreath laying ceremony. This annual event has been held for over 120 years at the Peter J. McGuire Memorial, located at Arlington

Cemetery, 1620 Cove Rd., Pennsauken, where the labor leader and "Father of Labor Day" is interred. The ceremony begins approximately at 11:15 a.m.

McGuire is known for championing important labor causes that are considered commonplace today, such as the 40-hour work week, days off on the

weekend, and child labor laws. His most famous achievement remains an idea he proposed in May 1882 at the New York Central Labor Union, for a day to be set aside to celebrate the American worker and to celebrate the achievements of the labor movement. In New York that Sep-

tember, the first Labor Day parade and celebration was held. In 1894, President Grover Cleveland signed the law declaring Labor Day as a national holiday.

The current memorial in Pennsauken was sponsored and built by the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners

and dedicated in 1952. In 2016, officials and VIPs were on hand to dedicate a new "welcome wall" to help mark the location of the Peter J. McGuire Memorial.



On the Friday before Labor Day, an annual wreath laying ceremony is held in Pennsauken to celebrate workers across the country.

### PENNSAUKEN AUGUST PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Township Committee (In Person)  
6:00 p.m. Thurs., Aug. 4 and 18
- Zoning Board of Adjustment (In Person)  
7:00 p.m. Wed., Aug. 3 and 17
- Planning Board (In Person)  
6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2 and 23
- Environmental Commission (Virtual)  
7:00 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15
- In-person public meetings are held on the second floor of the Pennsauken Municipal Building 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. (At the corner of Rt. 130 and Merchantville Ave.)

To learn more about virtual participation in the Environmental Commission Meeting, visit <https://www.facebook.com/PennsaukenEnviroComm>.

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## Keeping An Eye Out For Spotted Lanternflies



Beginning in late summer, spotted lanternflies, an invasive species of insect, are attracted to plants like tree-of-heaven to both feed and lay their eggs.

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

You still see the occasional post on social media with someone inquiring about a weird looking insect they've never seen before. One is a small red and black bug with white spots and spindly legs; the other is a flat, spotted-winged insect that's brownish-grey, black, and red. They're both the same thing: a spotted lanternfly, an invasive species of insect that's making its way along the East Coast.

Spotted Lanternflies originally hail from Asia and were first found in the U.S. in Berks County in Pennsylvania in 2014. From there, they've made their way to several different adjoining states, including New Jersey. Locally, they started causing a fuss here in town soon after.

So why are they a problem? In addition to heavy infestations becoming a quality-of-life issue for residents, spotted lanternflies damage the plants they feed on and are a serious threat to agriculture, including many fruits and crops. Everything from grapevines to maple trees are a target for these pests.

In Pennsauken, the number one way to get rid of spotted lanternflies is to eliminate their favorite plant. Tree-of-heaven is another invasive species in town; it's also known as stinking sumac, Chinese sumac, varnish tree, and stink tree. The plant releases a strong, offensive smell, particularly from its flowers, and has a knack for crowding out indigenous plants

and killing them. Look for bunches of long thin green leaves growing on red-dish-brown branches. They stand out like a sore thumb, even among wildflowers, so they're easy to identify and remove. They look like weeds when they're smaller, but the adult versions of these plants do grow into much larger trees.

If there's a tree-of-heaven, you'll most

likely find spotted lanternflies too. Some homemade remedies to get rid of these bugs include using spray bottles filled with white vinegar, or equal parts water and dish soap; you can also mix dish soap and apple cider vinegar in an open mason jar and leave it near where spotted lanternflies have been seen. If you have a wet shop vac, fill the well with water and

dish soap and vacuum the insects off of plants, trees, etc. There's also the tried-and-true method of a well-placed shoe.

August is prime spotted lanternfly season, so keep an eye – and possibly a shoe – out to send them packing.

For more information on spotted lanternflies and what to do about them, visit [BadBug.NJ.gov](http://BadBug.NJ.gov).

## Pennsauken EMTs Help Deliver Infant



Pennsauken EMTs Todd Watkins and Robert Cuevas, as well as EMTs Colleen OBrien and Jack Dymond (not pictured) responded to an emergency call on July 12 to help a Pennsauken mom deliver her newborn son into the world. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Garozzo on the birth of their healthy son Felix!

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By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,  
Department of Public Works

You may recall my mentioning of a "cut and leave" method in disposing of your grass clippings during the cutting season in previous articles. Not being one to recommend something without trying it, I gave it a whirl this year. Keep in mind that I've been bred to bag grass clippings since the age of 9, no exceptions. It's just something that went hand in hand with cutting grass: straight lines and bagged clippings set out at the curb on Tuesday nights.

With the thought of reintroducing the nutrients back to the lawn, I made up my mind and committed to not bagging grass clippings. Keep in mind that a mulching blade is an absolute must or

## A Personal Review Of "Cut And Leave" And A New Recycling Initiative

you will end up with a layer of clippings as you proceed. I'm very disciplined when it comes to weekly mowing, so if you have a regular mowing schedule, this will work fine for anyone.

I can happily report that I cannot tell the difference. The lawn looks green still, as I write this article during a second week of no rain in Pennsauken. The big difference in the process? The Tuesday night ritual of lugging bags of grass to the curb was removed from the weekly chore list! Additionally, the purchase of bags has been a cost savings. With no need to stop and empty the mower bag, I also finish up a bit sooner too. If you have not tried this method, I highly recommend it.

I mentioned a few articles ago that

we've identified some grant funds to begin offering residents lids for our yellow recycling buckets. With the requirement to place recyclables "loose" in the bucket (no bags), there is an opportunity for lightweight recyclables to blow around our neighborhoods. We will look to annually purchase these and distribute as requested, as well as include them with new or replacement bucket distribution. This initiative, coupled with our outreach program of keeping trash out of the recycling stream, will improve the quality and marketability of Pennsauken's recyclable material, offsetting the cost of this service. Due to some production delays, we anticipate delivery of the new lids in August. If you're interested in receiving one, contact our office to be placed on the list.

To contact us, call (856) 663-0178, email us at [PublicWorks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us](mailto:PublicWorks@twp.pennsauken.nj.us) or find us on Facebook at "Pennsauken Twp. Dept. of Public Works"

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## TALKIN' TRASH

Trash and recycling collection, as well as yard waste and white goods pickup, remain on a regular schedule this month, weather permitting. There are no special waste collection events this month.



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## A Sweet Tale Of Friendship And Caring

By Judith Kristen, AAP Columnist

Most everyone loves sweet stories with happy endings. This story has them both!

Merchantville resident and staffer at the famous Aunt Charlotte's Candies, Tamara Hadley, with oodles of friends and ties to Pennsauken, is the former principal dancer and ballet mistress of the Pennsylvania Ballet. And for someone who breathed the art of dance from a very early age, she suddenly found herself in need of a hip replacement. Her surgery was successful, and Tammy was anxious to get back to her active lifestyle. But healing takes place in its own time, and it was taking a bit longer than Tammy had hoped for.

Her coworkers who loved her dearly knew what she was going through, and exactly what she needed: a very special "pick me up." And so, home cooked meals were created, restaurant gift cards were purchased, get well soon cards mailed and hand-delivered, as were other well-wishing gifts hand delivered all in an effort to put a smile on her face, put her at ease, and to let Tammy know that they were all rooting for her speedy recovery.

Soon after her successful surgery, a coworker spotted Tammy with her

walker outside her lovely home, getting her daily prescribed exercise around the perimeter of the house. And, at that very moment, the revelation of a very thoughtful and clever idea was born! Her artistic coworkers: Noah Greene, Chelsie Greening, Stephanie Greening, Emma Tatta, and Susan Tavares, came up with a plan to put inspirational messages on blank lawn signs and place them strategically along Tammy's exercise route.

But how and when could they do

that? The plot thickens... Under night-fall, the crew, equipped with the proper tools, went straight to work to make the magic happen for their dear friend.

All was peaceful on the home front, Tammy's husband, Bill DeGregory, also a former principal dancer at the Pennsylvania Ballet, took their dog out for his evening walk. Noticing the signs at the end of their driveway, he was completely stunned. Tammy grabbed her walker, then made her way outside, while Bill

held a flashlight in hand.

And there they were, ten signs in total. Signs of friendship, love, healing prayers, funny sayings, and heartfelt messages for wellness and a speedy recovery.

Tammy was overcome with excitement and joy as she read and took photos of each and every sign. She quickly figured out who was behind the surprise and began texting the culprits.

The next day, Tammy took more her time admiring each sign and the inspira-

tional and often funny messages on them. She even caught several couples strolling by who took their own time enjoying the signs and laughing as they read them. She jokingly said that she was going to start charging for the "circle" tour.

Still overjoyed by her friends love and well wishes Tammy posted a heartfelt thank you on Facebook to all her "buddies" that work at Aunt Charlotte's and stated that "they're sweeter than the candy they pack all day!" And yes, they are!

## Summer Fun Continues from Pennsauken Parks and Recreation

Children in Pennsauken and Merchantville can add more fun and excitement to their summer with entertaining and educational programs offered through Pennsauken's Department of Recreation.

### Bowling

This fun camp will be at the amazing Pinsetter Bowling Center on Maple Ave. in Pennsauken. Basic bowling instruction will be provided by qualified instructors and skills competitions for prizes will be held the last day of the camp. The program runs from 10:00 a.m. to noon, Aug. 8-12, and is for kids ages 7-

14. The fee is \$65 for the week and includes shoes and ball.

### Nature Camp

This brand-new camp gives children ages 12 to 16 a chance to enjoy unique outdoor activities, including kayaking to Petty's Island and exploring Tippin's Pond. Nature Camp runs Aug. 8-11, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$50 per child.

### Join The Municipal Pool

The Parks and Recreation Department is accepting membership applications and fees for the 2022 pool season.

Appointments are required to sign up for the pool. To schedule an appointment, call (856) 665-1000 x0.

The Municipal Pool, located at 6100 River Rd., is open to Pennsauken and Merchantville residents only and all applicants must provide a photo ID, current utility bill, and birth certificate and report card for children. The pool is currently open 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on weekends and holidays, and from noon to 7:30 p.m. on weekdays. Pool fees and other information are available at <https://pennsauken.gov/content/pennsauken-municipal-pool> as well as through the Pennsauken Parks

and Recreation Department.

### TO REGISTER

Registration for most summer programs is ongoing at the Pennsauken Municipal Building, Rt. 130 and Merchantville Ave. Forms are available at the municipal building from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Program listings and downloadable registration forms are available online at [PennsaukenEvents.com](https://PennsaukenEvents.com). Payment is accepted in cash, check, or money order. For more information, contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at [jvazquez@pennsauken.gov](mailto:jvazquez@pennsauken.gov) or (856) 665-1000 ext. 151.



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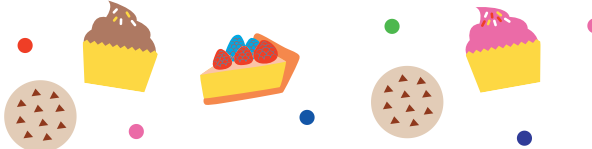


# inSchool

## Celebrating Our Rising Fourth Graders



The staff of Delair Elementary School hope our rising fourth graders are having a wonderful summer! In June, these students all joined classes to take a group photo at the playground!



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## Sixth Grade Orientation Held August 23

Sixth grade orientation will be held at Phifer Middle School, 8201 Park Ave., on Tuesday, Aug. 23.

Student orientation will be from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Learn about the exciting op-

portunities at Phifer Middle School from current students and staff; participate in team building exercises; meet the principals; and go on a tour of the building.

Parent orientation, held from 6:00 to

7:30 p.m., will focus on providing families with the tools for success as their students' transition to middle school. For more info, contact Tracey Turner at (856) 662-8511 ext. 4505.

## More Than A Business: Countrywide Home Care Creates A Family By Choice

"A family by choice." That's how Anna Adler, executive director and owner of Countrywide Home Care, describes the approach of her staff to serving clients throughout Southern New Jersey.

"I wanted to create something different: a business with a huge heart," explains Adler. "I have lived in this community since I was 13 and was working in home care for over 20 years. I realized that no home health care agency really had the community in mind. I needed to create something special that truly took care of elderly and disabled clients, as well as those who care for them. I treat every aide and client like family."

In the last two and a half years, Countrywide in New Jersey has expanded to two locations, with over 400 aides serving 750 clients. Aides provide care right in the clients' homes, assisting with bathing, toileting, ambulation, transferring clients in and out of beds and wheelchairs, grooming, food preparation, laundry, light housekeeping, and errands. The aides also provide companionship and a caring ear ready to listen.

"Our staff forms valuable connections with our clients. So many people are alone with no family and no one to talk to," says Adler. "And with staff who speak languages like Spanish, Russian, Korean, Hebrew, and Hindi, we can relate to them in their native tongues."

As part of her commitment to serving the community, Adler is very hands on with the families she serves, as well as her employees.

"We're a family and families are supposed to take care of



The staff of Countrywide Home Care: "A family by choice."

each other," explains Adler. "We make sure that our community is fed. We get deliveries twice a month of chicken, peanut butter, and rice. We stock up the freezers for the clients and the aides. We make sure that everybody has an opportunity to get to work. If there's an emergency and an aide doesn't have transportation, we'll come get them. We also offer clients and their families an on-call service that's available 24/7, with a live person on the phone.

"I love the community, and this is what is important to me. Countrywide is my life. I will do anything for everyone. We are a business with a huge heart."



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- RN Supervised CHHA Services And Companion Care
- Medication Reminders

Countrywide Home Care strives to add value to peoples' lives by providing them with optimal care. By treating people with dignity, and respecting their space, privacy, and beliefs we aim to provide the best care possible. We are here to work and live within the community that we care for.



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## Welcome To All Of Our Preschool Students

By Dana Gery, Principal, Baldwin Early Childhood Learning Center, Burling Elementary Preschool

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year and a brand-new educational journey for your child! The teachers and staff are eager to work with you and your child to make this the most successful school year ever!

I am thrilled to welcome you and I am looking forward to meeting all of you. I grew up in Pennsauken and am a proud graduate of Pennsauken High School. I began my career in Pennsauken as an elementary teacher. I then moved to Howard M. Phifer Middle School, where I was the eighth grade principal; and before beginning at Baldwin, I was the as-

sistant principal at Longfellow Elementary School. I am very excited to work together to make this a fantastic new school year!

Please find a summary of information that will help you during the first few days of school:

- Baldwin Meet and Greet is Thursday, Sept. 1, at 6:00 p.m. Mark your

calendars!

- The first day of school is Tuesday, Sept. 6. This is a full day for students. Arrival is 8:45 a.m. and dismissal is 3:20 p.m.

Please be sure to check your child's backpack, as well as Pennsauken.net for notices and updates throughout the school year.

We hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer. I look forward to meeting all of you at the Meet and Greet and to a very successful school year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office at (856) 662-8464.



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## Back To School Info For Pennsauken Intermediate School

By Tanya Harmon, Principal, Pennsauken Intermediate School

The teachers and the staff here at the Pennsauken Intermediate School are excited to welcome our families for the 2022-2023 school year. This school year will be filled with new learning adventures and explorations! We can't wait to see you!

Please find a summary of information that will help you plan for the upcoming school year:

The first day of school for students is Tuesday, Sept. 6. School begins daily at 8:05 a.m. for all students.

A bus, if assigned, will pick up your child at their designated bus stop. Bus information will be mailed to you from the Pennsauken Department of Transportation. If you have questions, please contact the Transportation Dept. at (856) 662-8502.

Information regarding lunch applications forms to determine your child's lunch status for the 2022-2023 school year will be mailed home from Pennsauken's Food Services. If you have any questions about your child's meal status (free, reduced, or paid lunch), please contact Food Services at (856) 662-8500.

There is a district wide uniform policy for all Pennsauken school students. Students are required to wear dark blue/navy collared polo shirts, dark blue or khaki slacks, shorts, skirts/skirts. Sweatpants, yoga pants, jeans, tights/jeggings, hoodies, flip flops, high heels, and Crocs are not permitted.

Information on Back to School Night will be forthcoming.

We hope that you enjoy the rest of your summer, and we look forward to seeing you on Sept. 6!

## An Important Notice Concerning Free/Reduced Meals, PEBT

For School Year 2022-2023, families MUST submit an application for Free and Reduced Meal Benefits in order to receive those benefits.

For the past two years, families did not have to submit an application. However, the Federal Government has changed back to requiring meal applications for each household. These applications will not only be for free/reduced meals but will also provide approved families with any potential PEBT benefits. These benefits cannot be distributed without having a 2022-2023 application on file.

Applications will be sent home the first day of school with every child. Only one application needs to be completed per household, listing all members in the household. Additionally, applications will be available on the Pennsauken District Website, Pennsauken.net, clicking the "Departments" menu link, and selecting "Food Services."

## Franklin Book And Craft Night



PHS students from the English Honor Society held a Book and Craft Night with Franklin students. They read a "choose your own adventure" from "Goosebumps!"

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### Fall Registration Open House

Tuesday August 16  
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## Preparing For A New School Year At Pennsauken Public Schools

By Dr. Ronnie Tarchichi, MEd<sup>2</sup>., M.S., M.B.S., M.A.<sup>2</sup>, Ed.D., Ph.D., Superintendent, Pennsauken Public Schools; and the Pennsauken Board of Education: Nick Perry, President; JoAnn Young, Vice President; Lisa Eckel; Michael Hurley; Maria James; Diane Johnson; Samer John Jarboun-Rafeh; Scott La Vine; and Orlando Viera

We hope that everyone – staff, students, and school families – had a restful summer vacation and are ready to come back for a new school year with a smile on their face. There is so much to smile about, as we have had a very successful school summer.

The staff of Pennsauken Public Schools have spent several weeks in summer enrichment, summer school, and athletic camps, teaching our students that the desire to learn is mirrored with doing the right thing. We would like to thank our parents and educators for continuing to encourage our students about the value of education and how their hard work will then benefit others within their world.

Dr. Tarchichi, along with the Board of Education, are very grateful for the administrators who have shown their leadership, as well as the teachers, coaches and staff members who have shown their devotion, by serving our students and families during the summer months

and school year. They have not only expressed their love for teaching by doing their duty, but also have truly gone above and beyond for our students.

In the last six years, the Board of Education has put close to \$60 million into Pennsauken Public Schools and we would like to share some significant successes with our community. We will host two ribbon cutting ceremonies in September. First, the Puratos Baking CTE Ribbon Cutting will be Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 2:30 p.m. in the PHS Cafeteria. Pennsauken Public Schools is hosting the only Puratos Baking School in the United States of America and our students will take part in this wonderful program. Second, the Roosevelt K-8 STEM School Ribbon Cutting will be Friday, Sept. 2, at 12:30 p.m. Roosevelt has been completely renovated as a state-of-the-art Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) School that will become a jewel in the Pennsauken community.

These are only two of the many wonderful accomplishments of this Board of Education over the past six years. We look forward to seeing you to share in all the accomplishments of our wonderful elementary and secondary students in Pennsauken Public Schools.

## Welcoming Delair Students Back To School

By Rosalyn Lawrence, Principal, Delair Elementary

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Delair School for the 2022-2023 school year! As we begin a new year with new students and returning families, it is an exciting time! We are preparing to make learning rigorous, engaging and FUN, while keeping the momentum going for our students. Welcome to the Dynamic Delair Team!

I hope that the summer months were fun, relaxing, and filled with many learning experiences. I look forward to this school year becoming an extension of that summer fun through some exciting and new challenges as we embark upon another wonderful school year.

Students of Delair Elementary School are expected to take advantage of every learning opportunity available; perform their best on all academic tasks; respect themselves and others; contribute to the development of a positive learning environment; and develop problem solving and conflict resolution skills.

The staff at Delair are here to assist students in meeting these expectations. A

positive and safe atmosphere has been cultivated into an environment that places a heavy emphasis on the value of learning. Learning experiences and activities will be meaningful and challenging to all students. In addition, classroom activities will be focused on student involvement and a hands-on approach to learning.

Parents at Delair School are encouraged to instill the value and importance of your child's education through your communication, involvement, and participation in your schools' activities; participate in conferences to discuss your child's educational progress; and develop relationships with teachers who care deeply about your child.

As your principal, I am excited about the plans for the upcoming school year, working with all the students and their families as we strive to make the school year a successful experience for everyone.

School begins Sept. 6. Doors at Delair will open for students at 8:50 a.m.! Keep an eye out for our welcome letter during the middle of August.

I look forward to meeting and greeting everyone in September!

## Welcome To George B. Fine Elementary

By Thomas Honeyman, Principal, Fine Elementary

I hope this letter finds you healthy and your family enjoying the remaining days of summer. Welcome to George B. Fine Elementary School, whether you are returning or are new to the Pennsauken School District. We have a special learning community where student safety and emotional wellbeing are just as important as academic success.

The return to everyday school last August with limited pandemic restrictions was an extreme blessing but not without challenges. We strive for even smoother instructional days for 2022-2023. I want everyone to know that all of our Pennsauken schools are continuing to put

the health and safety of your child first. Your strong partnership during these odd days maximizes your child's academic growth and maturation. Thank you for being involved each day with your child during these vital elementary years.

We will be starting the 2022-2023 year with all students returning to their respective buildings as we did last year. Thank you in advance for your patience as we adjust to any new challenges as the summer weeks wind down. Your children, our students, are worth all the planning effort.

In preparing for school, please review the following information regarding the opening of school. It is important that your child arrives at school on time and

ready to learn each day. PLEASE ensure their arrival by 8:50 a.m. This is the first step to academic success. Below are some important upcoming events.

The first day of school for students is Tuesday, Sept. 6, and it will be a full day of learning.

Back to School Night will most likely be a VIRTUAL information session this year on Sept. 19.

Suggested school items and uniform information can also be found at [fine.pennsauken.net](http://fine.pennsauken.net).

I look forward to continuing to work and lead the educational community of Fine. Continue to be safe this summer—please find time to read with your children – and see you in September!

## A New Year Of Learning At Franklin

By Susan Galloza, Principal, Franklin Elementary

Ben Franklin Elementary School's staff is thrilled to welcome all students attending Franklin this 2022-2023 for a Fantastically Franklin school year.

Our Franklin Family continues to demonstrate their resilience and dedication to our students. As we learn to operate with COVID, our family's cooperation has not gone unnoticed. We cannot be prouder of our students and teachers for their flexibility during this time. Curiosity,

persistence, and love of learning are three traits we want to cultivate in all of our students. At Franklin, we want healthy children both physically and emotionally.

We look forward to a great 2022-2023 school year. Some of our new initiatives this year include a monthly perfect attendance activity and district-wide monthly Parent Involvement Nights. We will continue our Book and Craft Nights. We encourage parents to join the PTA, who are planning some awesome activities. We will continue our Instrumental Music for

third grade and put on two theater productions this year.

I am looking forward to the start of the new school year. Pre-K and kindergarten orientation will be held on Aug. 30 and Back to School Night will be announced soon. Please be on the lookout for the back-to-school mailing at the end of August. Of course, you can check [Pennsauken.net](http://Pennsauken.net), as well as Franklin's website for the most up-to-date information. Enjoy the rest of your summer and come ready to learn!

## Welcome Back To Carson Elementary

By Diane Joyce, Principal, Carson Elementary

Welcome new and returning families to Carson School! Please know that our teachers and staff work diligently to provide our Carson students with a quality education.

Below, please find a summary of information that will help you plan ahead for the upcoming school year:

Kindergarten orientation is scheduled for Aug. 30. Information will be forthcoming.

The first day of school for students is Tuesday, Sept. 6. This will be a full day of school. School begins daily at 8:50 a.m. for all students. Please be sure to have your child arrive on time to school, this is important for their academic success.

A bus, if assigned, will pick up your child at their designated bus stop. Bus information will be mailed to you from the Pennsauken Department of Transportation.

If you have questions, please contact the Transportation Dept. at (856) 662-8502.

There is a district wide Uniform Policy for all Pennsauken school students. Students are required to wear: a dark blue/navy collared polo shirt, dark blue or khaki slacks, shorts, skirts/skirts.

Information regarding dates/sessions for Back to School Night will be forthcoming.

More information about our school can be found on Pennsauken Public Schools website, [pennsauken.net](http://pennsauken.net) and [carson.pennsauken.net](http://carson.pennsauken.net).

Your child will be bringing home a RED FOLDER on their first day of school. This folder will contain important information. Please take the time to review.

I look forward to educating your students and leading the educational community of Carson School. See you in September!

## Carson Students Enjoy A Cool Treat



In June, Mr. Softee visited Carson so students could enjoy an ice cream treat! This was part of an end-of-the-year celebration for all our students for all their hard work throughout this school year!

### PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL NEWS

For further information about the articles or events published in the Pennsauken School News section of "All Around Pennsauken" please contact: Nicole Roberts, Editor – [nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net](mailto:nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net).



## Carson School Boys' Club

Carson second and third grade boys participated in a Boys' Club, which was moderated by Mr. Bynoe, our daily building substitute. The boys met throughout the school year and participated in discussions and activities to promote self-confidence and positive behaviors. Mr. Bynoe created individual t-shirts for each of the boys and our students wore them proudly! Thank you, Mr. Bynoe for your dedication to Carson's students!

The Carson School Boys' Club held discussions and activities to promote self-confidence and positive behaviors.



## Language Arts Students Create Professionally Bound Book

The fourth and fifth grade students in Mrs. Hager-Campbell's Language Arts class at the Intermediate School created a professionally bound book using Studenttreasures Publishing!

Students wrote acrostic poems using their first name and created illustrations of their favorite things.



## Honoring The Memory Of Former Staff

The Pennsauken School District was saddened to learn of the recent passing of two former staff members.

Catherine Gosse, 66, passed away on June 30. She spent almost four decades with the District, serving as a special education teacher at Central Elementary School and Phifer Middle School, then becoming a student counselor at Pennsauken High School from 1989 until her retirement in 2012.



Gosse

Thomas O'Rourke, Jr., 61, passed away on July 13. Affectionately known as "Mr. Tom," O'Rourke enjoyed a lengthy career at Franklin Elementary, serving as its hard-working custodian. Mr. Tom lived right across the street from Franklin and was always quick to lend a hand.

O'Rourke

Our sincerest condolences go out to their families, past colleagues, and the members of the school community who knew and loved them.

## Congrats To Honor Roll Students



Congratulations to Franklin's May Honor Roll Students!

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12:30 P.M.



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## PUBLIC SAFETY An Important Message About Noise Issues In Town



By Pennsauken Township Police Chief Philip Olivo

With the warm weather of the summer, many residents will be having parties and get-togethers. We encourage the residents of our community to have fun and take advantage of the long summer days and nice

summer nights. At the same time, I remind our residents that we are all part of a community; and as such, we must respect each other and be good neighbors.

The Pennsauken Police Department has received an increased number of calls for noise complaints. Most of these complaints are for late night parties with loud music. So even though you are having fun, please take into consideration that

your neighbors—and their families—have the right to get a good night's sleep.

Chapter 210 of Pennsauken Township's Code Book directly addresses noise issues. Under this ordinance, loud music is prohibited between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. If we receive a call for loud music and you are in violation of this ordinance, you may be issued a summons. If we receive additional calls

for loud music and you are in violation of this ordinance, you will be issued a summons.

Residents who are experiencing noise issues in our community, regardless of the time of day, are asked to contact the Pennsauken Police Department's non-emergency number at (856) 488-0080, ext. 2015, and request that an officer to be dispatched to your address.

I hope this message prevents future violations of this ordinance and we do not have to issue summonses. Make no mistake, if you refuse to comply with this ordinance, summonses will be issued. We are all members of this community; please respect your neighbors, be courteous, and use common sense.

Have a great rest of your summer and stay safe!

## Pennsauken EMTs Recognized For Heroic Actions



By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

At the Township Committee Meeting on July 7, Pennsauken Mayor Jessica Rafeh presented a proclamation to two of the town's EMTs, for providing life-saving assistance to a very special person.

Several months ago, EMTs Thomas

**Pennsauken Mayor Jessica Rafeh read a proclamation honoring EMTs Steven Engel and Thomas DiPaolo, who provided life-saving assistance to Dr. Nidal Rafeh, the mayor's uncle.**

DiPaolo and Steven Engel responded to a call of an individual experiencing severe chest pains. The patient, a visitor from South America who was staying with relatives in Pennsauken for his daughter's wedding, had a significantly low heart rate and was instantly transported to the hospital. Enroute, the patient became unresponsive and rescue breathing measures were implemented immediately. While the situation remained dire, the work of DiPaolo and

*continued on page 23*

## Pennsauken Town Watch Held August 10

With an increase in community participation, the Aug. 10 Town Watch Meeting will be held in the training room at the Pennsauken Township Police Station, 2400 Bethel Ave. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, visit the "Pennsauken Town Watch" Facebook Group.



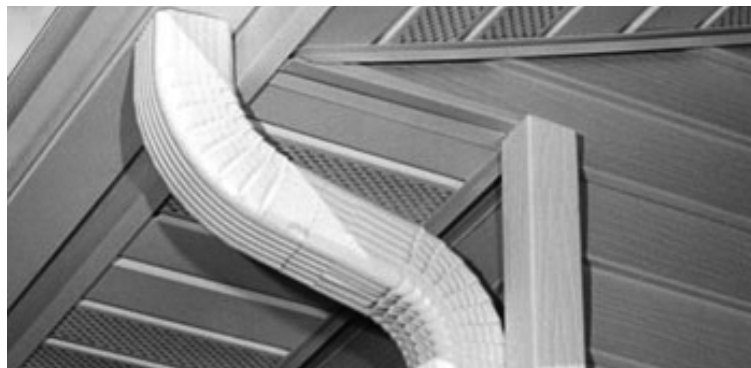
## Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

1250 John Tipton Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110

Phone: (856) 663-5542 • Fax: (856) 663-5718 • 24 Hour Emergency: (856) 662-0686

## Improper Connections Cause Property Damage

The connection of sump pumps and down spouts to the sanitary sewer system is prohibited. During periods of heavy rain, these connections often overwhelm the main lines. This could result in a sewage back up into your own home or the home of your neighbor. If you need additional information about these types of connections, or suspect you or a neighbor, may have an improper connection and want information about having it removed, please call our office at (856) 663-5542.



## Think Twice About What You're Flushing

Baby wipes, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, and even "flushable" wipes, can't go down the toilet.

Please do not flush baby wipes, "flushable" wipes, disinfectant wipes or paper towels down the toilet.

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority is asking residents to think twice about what they are flushing down their

toilets.

Paper towels, tissues, napkins, disinfectant wipes, and supposedly "flushable" wipes should not be flushed down the toilet.

We are seeing an increase in volume,

which is to be expected given the number of people staying in their homes as part of efforts to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

The Pennsauken Sewerage Authority remains available 24 hours a day to

assist residents. We will respond to all requests for assistance and will advise the homeowner of our findings by tele-

phone. If you require assistance call (856) 662-0686.

### REMINDER: CHECK TO SEE IF YOUR NEXT PAYMENT IS DUE THIS MONTH.

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■  
If there is a sewer emergency, call the emergency telephone number (856-662-0686) and someone will respond to the call. If you need to contact us for information, you can email customerservice@psewer.com and we will respond in a timely fashion.

If you are having a financial hardship and will be unable to pay your bill on time, or in full, please contact us at (856) 663-5542 to make payment arrangements. A simple 5-minute call could save you the inconvenience of being without water as well as the shut off fee which is currently \$75. Please do not send post dated checks to PSA without prior arrangements.



## ANIMALCONTROL Helpful Tips For Keeping Your Pets Safe During Warmer Weather

Information Provided By  
New Jersey Animal Control

Summer can be an uncomfortable – and dangerous – time for your pet. The following are some tips to keeping your pet safe and cool this summer.

Hot and humid temperatures are a risk to your pet, in many cases causing heat stroke and death. Animals should have access to cool water and shade at all times and should never be left outside in the heat for more than 30 minutes. Keep a close eye on your pet—if they seem lethargic or are not acting normally, bring them indoors and seek veterinarian care.

Letting your dog in a pond or pool is a great way to cool off your pet. Make sure they do not drink the water due to the chemicals and other toxins. Try to rinse off your dog to wash away the chlorine or other chemicals which may cause eye, ear, and skin irritations.

Never leave your pet in a parked car.

The inside temperature of your car can quickly reach 120 degrees within a few minutes or even with the window cracked open.

Dogs' paws are sensitive to heat, especially hot asphalt or pavement. If your driveway is too hot for you – it's too hot for your pet.

Many dogs and cats are highly sensitive to loud noises and flashing lights. The best place for your pet during fireworks celebrations or summer storms is to keep them indoors. Moving your pet into an interior room without windows, turning on the TV or playing soft music may help in alleviating your pet's anxiety. If you find that your pet suffers from high anxiety, stress or fear during storms or fireworks, talk to your veterinarian.

One in five pets go missing after being scared by loud noises, fireworks, and thunderstorms. All dogs and cats should wear a collar or ID to help with reuniting

you with your pet. Microchipping your animal is also another good option for helping locate your animal. Be sure that your microchip is registered, and your contact information is up to date.

Remember to keep up on your dog's heartworm and flea/tick medications. The warm, summer days are when tick activity is at their peak. Protect them from infestation and illness by using preventative medications.

Believe it or not, sunburn can cause skin cancer in pets too. If your pet spends a lot of time outdoors, look for a pet-friendly sunscreen to protect your animal from the sun's harmful rays – especially on their nose and ears.

To report a lost or found animal, or for other animal related questions, please reach out to New Jersey Animal Control at (609) 685-3384, njacoffice@gmail.com, or on Facebook @NJAnimalControl.



### Scrub Daddy To Speak At PMAC Networking Luncheon

A representative from Scrub Daddy will be the guest speaker at the PMAC Networking Luncheon on Wednesday, Sept. 7, noon, at the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd.

Makers of "America's Favorite Sponge" and one of the most successful companies on the popular TV show "Shark Tank," Scrub Daddy relocated its global headquarters to Pennsauken, purchasing a 116,000-square foot property along Rt. 130 and investing over \$8 mil-

lion in site renovations.

The cost to attend is \$30 per person. PMAC members can R.S.V.P. no later than Monday, Sept. 5, by contacting Nancy Ellis at (856) 438-0833 or pmac1team@gmail.com.

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# MPWC WATERLINES

## Treatment Plant Dedicated To Brennan



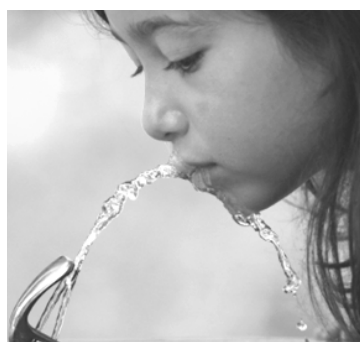
Last month, the MPWC's new water treatment plant at Woodbine Ave. in Merchantville was dedicated to Mr. Patrick Brennan, the Commission's current treasurer, who has served the MPWC – and the local community – for decades.

## The Tap Always Delivers!

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission's water tastes great and our compliance with state and federal drinking water standards remains exemplary year after year. So how does our water compare with bottled water? Some people believe bottled water is safer than the community water supply, but that just isn't true. In the vast majority of cases, both bottled water and tap water are safe, healthy choices. Plus, tap water costs a lot less than bottled water, and with no plastic bottles to create litter, nothing ends up in a landfill. It is also important to remember that only tap



water delivers public health protection, fire protection, and supports the economy and the overall quality of life we all enjoy. It's always a good time to think about the importance



of the critical systems that keep our tap water service strong and reliable. Help the MPWC spread the word: The Tap Always Delivers!

## PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE

*The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission Now Accepts Online Payments!*

Log onto our website at [www.mpwc.com](http://www.mpwc.com) and select the "Pay Your Bill" button right from our homepage.

## Online payments should be made directly through the MPWC's payment site.

Online payments should be made directly through the MPWC's payment site.

When paying your bill online, be reminded that the MPWC can only verify payments in real time if you pay through at our payment site. You can use this QR code and your phone's camera to link directly to our payment site, or you can visit [www.mpwc.com](http://www.mpwc.com) and click on the yellow button that reads "Access Online Bill Pay." Payments will be posted to your account on the next business day. If you are in danger of service termination, you may make an online payment and then contact our office, where a Customer Support Representative can log on and verify that your payment is pending.

Keep in mind that when using a web browser to search for how to pay MPWC bills online, you will often be directed to third party sights. Those payments can take up to 10 business days to reach our office.

**THE QUICKEST AND SAFEST WAY TO PAY YOUR BILLS IS**



**DIRECTLY WITH THE MPWC EITHER IN PERSON OR VIA OUR SECURED PAYMENT SITE** at our website or by using our Payment QR Code!

Please note that if you choose to pay through your bank's online "Bill Pay" option, processing will take some extra time. Your bank will actually cut a paper check and mail it to us via USPS. Be sure to schedule your payment well in advance of your due date to avoid penalties and possible service termination.

**Q: How often does the MPWC bill?**

**A: The MPWC bills every three months. However, we bill 7 cycles for each quarter & they don't run concurrent with taxes or with the sewer bills.**

**MPWC Did You Know...**

the MPWC has installed three antennas that help retrieve quarterly readings. They're located on three of our tanks (Cherry Hill, Woodbine, & Clements). They transmit local readings to our billing department for quarterly bills and to monitor trends in usage.

Meetings of the Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission are held in person on the second Thursday of every month at 4:00 p.m.

The location is the G. Burton German meeting room at the MPWC's Administrative Headquarters, 6751 Westfield Ave., Pennsauken, NJ 08110. The public is invited to attend. For more information, visit our website, [MPWC.com](http://MPWC.com)

### WATER EMERGENCY?

Call 856-663-0044 anytime, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## MERCHANTVILLE – PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION

6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110, 856-663-0043 [www.mpwc.com](http://www.mpwc.com)

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President ■ Mr. Shakir Ali, Vice President  
Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer ■ Mr. Frank Warwick, Secretary  
Mr. Anthony Perno, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer



## Infiniti Energy Installs Solar Array On Puratos HQ

Last month, Infiniti Energy began construction on a new solar array at Puratos USA's corporate headquarters in Pennsauken.

Infiniti Energy, a full-service solar power developer and independent power producer, and Puratos, a global leader in bakery, patisserie and chocolate ingredients and services, found common values in environmental and sustainability goals. Puratos has committed to 100 percent renewable energy by 2023, an important milestone for a company whose purpose is to move the planet forward by creating innovative food solutions for the health and well-being of people everywhere.

Infiniti Energy is thrilled to help them move toward this goal in the US.

The US headquarters will house a 450kW solar array, offsetting approximately 70 percent of its energy needs. With ovens, cooking stations, experience rooms and an innovation center at the site, energy use can be higher than typical headquarters. By choosing to offset much of their energy use with solar through Infiniti Energy, Puratos is removing the equivalent CO2 emissions of 224 tons of coal per year.

"Meeting our energy goals with renewable energy while also locking in favorable energy rates is a win-win for our headquarters here in the U.S. We have been happy to find a partner in Infiniti Energy that aligns with our purpose and supports our commitments to the next

generation," said Andy Brimacombe, president of Puratos USA.

Infiniti Energy is providing engineering, procurement, and construction services and will serve as the long-term owner and operator of the solar array, working with Upper Bay Infrastructure Partners as their financing partner.

"Every solar project Infiniti Energy works on has its own challenges and opportunities. We approach each one with a long-term, client-first focus, giving us the room to do what is best for each client. Working with Puratos USA to meet their corporate ESG goals is why we got into solar – helping the environment while helping clients," stated Michael Kushner, CEO of Infiniti Energy.



Infiniti Energy began construction on a new solar array at Puratos USA's corporate headquarters in Pennsauken.

## In the GARDEN While It's Hot, Plan For Planting When It's Cool

By Victoria Rose, AAP Columnist

Wow! Is it hot out there or what? While the temperatures are in the 90s, the best thing you can do for your garden is water, water, water! Again, the best times to give your plants, veggies, and lawns a good drink are early in the morning, and in the evening, when the weather is cooler.

Just because it's summer doesn't mean you can't do more in your garden. Now is the perfect time to plan for fall plant-

ings. Before you know it, temperatures will drop, and you can transition to cool weather crops.

While you wait for the thermometer to go down, trim shrubs and bushes, cutting away dead branches. Be sure to clear your vegetable gardens of plants that are done for the season. There's no reason to attract unwanted guests like bugs and other pests. In late August, you can also start to plant fall vegetables like beets, broccoli, kale, mustard greens, top

bunch collards, and spinach.

Be sure to add some topsoil to fill in any holes from the plants you remove and swap in some fresh mulch. And don't forget to weed! Those things drive me nuts!

Take your time and do your homework now, and before you know it, you'll be ready to enjoy plenty of plants and veggies before the first frost!

Thank you for taking the time to read my column. Until next time, be kind, be beautiful, and be happy!

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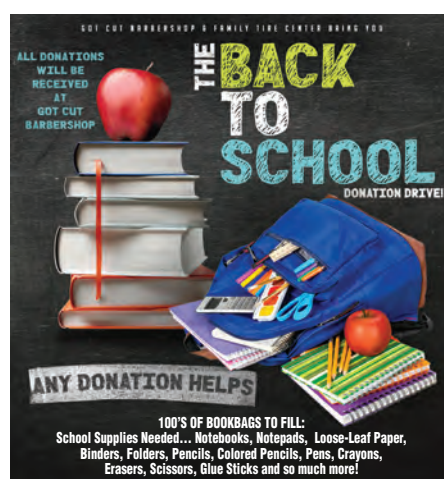
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## Pennsauken Celebrates One Hundredth Birthday Of Joyce Weaver

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Area veterans, local dignitaries, and distinguished guests were on hand last month in the Delair section of town to celebrate the 100th birthday of veteran Joyce Weaver.

"I've been fortunate the past couple of years to host three 100-year birthdays. This one is obviously extremely special," said Bruce Weaver, vice commander, F.W. Grigg Post 68 in Merchantville, and one of Joyce's sons. "Joyce is the second oldest member of our post and we're blessed and honored to have her as a member; and more importantly, she's my mom."

Joyce Weaver served as an Aviation Machinist Mate 3rd class in the Navy during World War II. She enlisted on October 19, 1942, and was in the first group of Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service, or WAVES, to be

sent to boot camp. She attended the Naval Training School in Cedar Falls, Iowa, then the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Memphis, Tenn. Upon completion of her training, Joyce was stationed at Naval Air Station, Norman, Okla., where she was a mechanic working on the Spearman (Boeing) Model 75 airplane, which is a biplane used as a military trainer aircraft. Her specialty was working on and repairing magnetos. She was honorably discharged on September 1, 1946. During her enlistment, she was awarded the American Campaign Medal and the World War II Victory Medal. She then enlisted in the Navy Reserve from September 1, 1946, to February 28, 1949.

After her discharge in 1946, she attempted to join The American Legion. The American Legion members did not want females among their ranks, so,

Joyce, and a number of female veterans, applied to The American Legion to form their own chapter: American Legion "Ruth Altone" Post 374. Joyce was a charter member, serving as junior vice commander. A current member of F.W. Griggs Post 68, Joyce is also a charter member of Women in Military Service for America.

Joyce married John Weaver in 1947 and they raised three sons: Bruce, Barry, and John. She has six grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and recently welcomed her first great, great, grandchild.

Many had an opportunity to express their congratulations to a very appreciative Mrs. Weaver on this important milestone.

"Joyce, this is a pleasure, as the Mayor of Pennsauken for my first 100th birthday proclamation," said Mayor Jessica Rafah. "You helped pave the way for



Deputy Mayor Nicole Roberts and Pennsauken Mayor Jessica Rafah helped to celebrate the 100th birthday of Joyce Weaver.

many women. You're truly a role model, for me and for everyone following."

To view a live stream video of Joyce's

100th birthday celebration, visit "All Around Pennsauken" on Facebook.

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## County Unveils New Track And Stadium Inside Cooper River Park

*continued from page 1*

by athletes, but everyday Camden County residents can also enjoy all this location has to offer. These are the types of projects we prioritize because they ensure that all of our residents have access to outdoor recreation."

The location underwent a complete transformation with the construction of a new six-lane track, a sodded field, three shade sail pavilions for shade and seating, water stations, tree plantings, lighting enhancements and curbing and drainage upgrades.

"These renovations at Jack Curtis Stadium have transformed a favorite spot for park goers and taken it to the next level. It means so much to Pennsauken residents and visitors to this crown jewel of the Camden County Park system,"

said Mayor Rafeh. "These amazing upgrades mean that more people will have opportunities to enjoy and use this wonderful space; to get outside and enjoy some much-needed fresh air; to exercise and de-stress from our hectic lives; to celebrate open spaces and get connected to nature and share a sense of community with our fellow neighbors who love the grass, the trees, and the water. So on behalf of not only myself, but our Township Committee and the entire Pennsauken community, I thank the Camden County Board of Commissioners for all of their hard work and dedication to making this the best park system in the State of New Jersey."

In April, the Board of Commissioners joined its community partners at the site of the track to unveil a \$100 million plan

to revitalize the county's 24 parks, conservation areas and waterways. For Cooper River Park in Pennsauken, enhancements are planned for the Victims of Terrorism Memorial, as well as infrastructure upgrades to the gazebo and picnic area and parking lots. Work is also planned to revitalize the Veteran's Island trails, enhance the memorial area walkway, make ADA and Universal Design upgrades, add interactive mapping and signage, and improve the park's playground. The new track will work in tandem with this initiative by drawing more residents and visitors to Cooper River Park to enjoy all the location has to offer.

For more on Parks Alive 2025, visit <https://www.camdencounty.com/service/parks/parks-alive-2025>.

## Pennsauken EMTs Recognized For Heroic Actions

*continued from page 18*

Engel, as well as the medical professionals at the hospital, ultimately resulted in the patient's survival and ongoing recovery.

"I am personally so grateful for the swift intervention of our first responders, as this incident was deeply personal to me. The patient that Mr. DiPaolo and Mr. Engel saved was my uncle, Nidal Rafeh. It was a harrowing ordeal for our family and stressful to my uncle, as there is a language barrier. The quick response time, professionalism, and care that we all experienced was truly remarkable," said Mayor Rafeh during the proclamation. "I am honored to stand before you with incredible appreciation for the work our Emergency Medical Services team provides to our community. Having personally experienced the expertise demonstrated by Pennsauken's EMTs during a crisis, I

am proud to recognize the exceptional efforts of both Thomas DiPaolo and Steven Engel for the heroic measures they exhibit every single day."

Dr. Nidal Rafeh and his family, who FaceTimed into the ceremony from Venezuela, expressed their gratitude to the first responders.

"They said 'Thank you both so much.' Because of the service you have provided my uncle, he is here to live another day with our beautiful family," translated Mayor Rafeh. "God bless you and God bless America for the services that it provides our residents."

"We couldn't be more proud of you guys for the work you do and the difference you make in our community. Words can't express it," added Township Committeeman and Director of Public Safety Marco DiBattista. "Be safe and keep up the good work."

## Pennsauken Car And Bike Show Held On September 18

*continued from page 1*

"Pennsauken's Car and Bike Show is a great opportunity for car and bike enthusiasts, as well as our families, to come out and enjoy a great public event," explains Juan Vazquez, Parks and Recreation coordinator. "We're excited to welcome back our longtime participants and hope to see a lot of new faces as well."

The form to register a vehicle for this year's show can be downloaded from the Township's website at PennsaukenEvents.com. Pre-registration fees are \$12 for cars and \$7 for bikes; forms with the entry fee must be mailed to the Pennsauken Township Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110, c/o Juan Vazquez by Sept. 14. Registration

on the day of the show is held from 10:00 a.m. to noon; at that time, fees are \$15 for cars \$8 for bikes.

In case of inclement weather, the rain date for the Car, Bike and Craft Show is Sunday, Sept. 25.

For questions or more information, email Juan Vazquez at [jvazquez@pennsauken.gov](mailto:jvazquez@pennsauken.gov) or call (856) 665-1000 x151.

## National Night Out In Pennsauken Held On August 2

*continued from page 1*

August (Texas celebrates on the first Tuesday in October). Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars,

youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more."

For more information, visit [PennsaukenEvents.com](http://PennsaukenEvents.com).

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## EDITOR'S DESK Some People Out There Really Just Shouldn't

EDITOR'S  
DESK



By Frank Sinatra,  
AAP Editor

It's tough to find things out there today. Baby formula, stocked shelves, lower gas prices, just to name a few. It also seems that common sense and basic courtesy are also in short supply. I'm not sure if they are delayed on a ship somewhere off the coast or stalled on a train somewhere in the Midwest. But someone needs to get the National Guard out to find the missing shipments and distribute them to the people.

Now this is not to say that this is the rule for the town I've called home for almost 50 years. In fact, I applaud those good people of Pennsauken who have stockpiled common sense and basic

human decency for a rainy day. They are the reason "Pennsauken Proud" came into existence and is a very real thing today. But some folks... you really just shouldn't.

We all know someone who has "that neighbor," the one with something on their property that makes you shake your head. Maybe it's tall grass that never gets cut, a giant pile of junk, or a tarp collecting moldy rainwater. They probably shouldn't keep doing that.

Or there's that one person on the block who feels they own the parking space in front of their house and passive aggressively writes nasty notes to leave on car windshields. Speaking of cars, I can't tell you how many times I've seen drivers zooming down our streets with a complete and total disregard for fellow drivers

and pedestrians. Shouldn't be doing that either.

And don't get me started about social media. If I knew how many trolls were out there, I would have bought up bridges and made a fortune in real estate. Some of the things they post make me think they REALLY shouldn't click send.

I get that people might be having a bad

day and maybe say or write or type something that they shouldn't. But what you're feeling isn't an excuse to be horrible. Show some consideration. Show some empathy. Show some compassion. It takes more energy to be awful than it does to be kind. Being kind costs nothing but is so valuable to others. And really, isn't that what we should be doing?

Now you may have guessed that I might have more specific examples that I wanted to reference in this article. This is not the first draft of this column. But I realized that I really shouldn't do that. It wouldn't be kind.

Thanks for allowing me to vent. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

## Pennsauken's Mateo Visits Camden City Lions Club



District Governor Ely Mateo made his first official district club visit to the Camden City Lions Club last month. During his visit, he was presented with a proclamation for his dedicated work with the Lions Clubs in New Jersey. Mateo looks forward to meeting with many community leaders both in Pennsauken and elsewhere, as he travels throughout the State visiting Lions Clubs during the coming year.

### Christmas In July Fundraiser A Success

The Pennsauken Lions Club held its first community wide Christmas In July fundraiser at the 45th Street Pub in Pennsauken on July 23. Due to the overwhelming need of needy children needing toys for Christmas, 10 percent of the proceeds collected will be donated to the Pennsauken Angel Tree Program. We

want to thank Club President Matt McDevitt for his tireless effort in making our first community wide event a huge success.

The Pennsauken Lions Club continues to support the needs of the community by addressing issues that benefit the less fortunate in Pennsauken. The Lions are looking for dedicated individuals to join us for any future meeting and to become a member. If you would like more information about the Lions Club, to help the less fortunate citizens of the community, donate to our vision screening program, or support our school scholarship efforts, please consider joining us! Lions meet



The Camden City Lions Club presented District Governor Ely Mateo with a proclamation in recognition of his work with the Lions Clubs in New Jersey. From left to right: First Vice President Charles Matthews, Club Secretary Shelby Baker, International Director Jeff Gans, District Governor Ely Mateo, Club President Edward McNally, and Club Director Ellyn Gans.

at 6:00 p.m. on the first Monday of each month (except holidays) at the Community Room of the Pennsauken Free Public Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd.

Please follow us @PennsaukenLions on Facebook, or email us at PennsaukenLionsClub1@gmail.com for more information.

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## FOODADVENTURES

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist

Nestled at 7811 Maple Ave. between Crab Du Jour Xpress and the Rite Aid sits a new and exciting food location: Boba Tea House. This great establishment is host to a menu of some very cool items, everything from hot milk teas to iced refreshers. My personal favorite is the

## Bubbles And Boba And Bodacious Treats In Pennsauken

taro milk tea with popping bubbles. My friend ordered the lychee oolong tea and described it as “perfect sweetness and aromatics.” She also raves that the coconut milk tea is fantastic.

The teas are slightly customizable with ice and sweetness. You can choose different ranges of sweetness in your drink

along with how much ice you want. I stick to 30 percent sweetness and less ice. Boba tea is a popular drink that has taken the world by storm after becoming a hit in Taiwan. It consists of tea chewy tapioca balls called boba, but it can be made with other toppings as well, such as grass jelly, aloe vera, or popping bubbles. Wawa has even begun making drinks that include these popping bubbles.

The Boba Tea House isn't only a drink spot either. There is a full menu

of appetizers, rice balls, and chicken dishes. For the more adventurous food adventurer I suggest the takoyaki, a fried octopus ball. If you are looking for something more tame, there are cheese steak egg rolls as well. The rice balls are a great snack of sticky rice and various things like seaweed or crab. It's chewy and savory. The chicken dishes are also a huge hit with flavors like garlic or even curry.

Orders can be placed ahead of time

and the website, bobateahousenj.com, is very user friendly. They are open Monday through Sunday, 11:00 a.m. until 10:00 p.m. You can call to place an order as well by calling (856) 885-2988. The most appealing thing is that nothing here is over \$6.00!

This is a great new addition to Pennsauken and a fun and exciting food destination for all ages. Let me know what you think of the place and always enjoy your Food Adventures!

## Pennsauken's Fall Festival Returns October 15

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Save the date! Pennsauken Township, in association with the Pennsauken Firefighters Association, will host its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, Oct. 15 (rain date Sunday, Oct. 16). This annual event, held from noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Pennsauken Community Recreation Complex on Westfield Ave., brings the Township community together with a family-friendly atmosphere.

“Pennsauken families will enjoy amusement rides, food trucks, and much more,” explains Mayor Jessica Rafeh. “Our residents and neighbors will defi-

nately not want to miss out on this great event.”

Held in conjunction with Fire Prevention Month, a time of year to focus on promoting the importance of fire safety in the community, the Pennsauken Fire Department will hold several demonstrations, including rappelling, a car extraction, and more.

Crafters, businesses, and community groups are invited to join the Fall Festival as a vendor. For details, visit PennsaukenEvents.com or email [jvazquez@pennsauken.gov](mailto:jvazquez@pennsauken.gov).



Pennsauken's annual Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, Oct. 15, at the Pennsauken Community Recreation Complex on Westfield Ave.



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## FRIENDS *of the* LIBRARY

### Fundraising A Focus For The Friends Of The Library

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library

Thanks to the warm weather, delicious lemonade donated by Wendy's, and generosity of the attendees at the Pennsauken Library's Summer Reading Kick-off event, the Friends had yet another successful fundraising event to support the library and its many programs.

Our next fundraiser will be in the fall, where participants will have a chance to win one of five incredible baskets worth at least \$250 each and filled with gift certificates and merchandise from local business and restaurants. We'll let you

know when tickets go on sale so you can stock up. The baskets will also be on display in the library so you can check out all the goodies inside. Stay tuned! In addition, we'll be hosting a number of 50/50 raffles at various locations and events coming up. These raffles are an easy way to pick up a few extra dollars when one lucky winner receives half the pot collected that day. Win-win! And the best part is we've been invited to host 50/50s at the Pennsauken Youth Soccer Club games on Friday nights! We'll give you the dates once they're confirmed.

Planning for the return of our Book and Media Sale will start the end of August. Volunteers interested in helping plan the event, sort donated material and/or set up the sale itself can contact Elyn McMullin at friendslibrary@yahoo.com or call (856) 665-5959, ext. 6 and leave your name and contact information no later than Aug. 20. Please be assured that we're not going to have anyone lifting heavy boxes or doing anything strenuous, although we may have to tax your brain for some new ideas for setting up the sale. Keep in mind that we'll need volunteers for morning, afternoon and evening hours starting Monday, Sept. 19, which also happens to be the first day we'll start collecting all the books, media materials, and other items you've been packing up to donate. On the 19th, you'll be able to bring them to the library's Community Room, where they'll await sorting for the sale. See you there!



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## Pennsauken To Hold Annual 9/11 Flag Placement Ceremony

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Each year, American flags are placed throughout Pennsauken's 9/11 Memorial, located at the corner of Merchantville Ave. and Rt. 130, across the street from the Township's Municipal Building and the Pennsauken Free Public Library.

Volunteers are needed to help distribute the flags on Saturday, Sept. 10 at 11:45 p.m. and remove them on Sunday, Sept. 11 at 11:45 p.m. Those wishing to participate on either day are asked to arrive by 11:40 p.m.

Pennsauken's monument was first dedicated on September 11, 2003, as a tribute to the heroes of 9/11 and the dedicated direct responders — police, fire and EMS — who serve every day to protect residents and businesses in the communities where they live. In remembrance of the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, a steel beam from the World Trade Center North Tower was dedicated as a permanent part of the memorial.



An annual Pennsauken tradition, members of our community will join first responders to place American flags at the Township's 9/11 Memorial.

## Woman's Club To Hold Indoor, End Of Year Picnic

The Woman's Club of Merchantville is celebrating the end of summer with their annual picnic (indoors with no ants) on Wednesday, Aug. 24, noon at the Merchantville Community Center, 212 Somerset Ave. The cost is \$10. If anyone

would like to attend or get more information about the event, please call Geri Tabako (856) 665-5468.

The Woman's Club is a volunteer organization that meets September through May. The Club holds formal tea luncheons; programs that are of interest to women; and general meetings. There are also fun events like card party luncheons, bunco games, and bus trips. Please come out and meet us! You do not have to live in Merchantville to belong to our group.

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## GRAYMATTERS If You Can't Stand The Heat, Get Closer To The AC

By Judith Kristen,  
AAP Columnist

Well, here we go again. IT'S HOT OUT THERE!!! But remember, it's not the heat, it's the humidity.

Dontcha' just wanna' find out who originally said that and go thump them upside their head? Seriously, I have al-

ready seen my ice cream cone turn into a milkshake in less than 20 seconds!

I realize I'm steaming the beans of many a beach lover who will sit out from sunrise to sunset, or in their backyards when "down the shore" isn't working for them on that particular day. But, as Bob Dylan once said, "It ain't me, babe!"

Maybe I should consider my Scandi-

navian roots here, as in truth, I've had Sophie out for a walk in a chill factor of minus 4 and we both loved it! It was rather refreshing... Is there such a thing as a Norwegian Hound Dog? And by the way, in the winter, "It's not the cold, it's the chill factor."

I have also played in the snow with my children until even my kids said to me,

"Mom, let's go in. It's freezin' out here!" So of course, I took all four of them back in the house for some hot chocolate. But in all honesty, I was back outside within 15 minutes putting the finishing touches on the snowman while, by the way, my children watched from the front window, hot chocolate in hand.

Now I know that sounds crazy to the swelter lovers of sultry summer, but, like you, I have my preferences, and I can see the point of the fox as well as the point of the hound (possibly a Norwegian

one). So I guess we're even here.

As I finish up this column, I'm going to make myself one of those famous Jersey Tomato sandwiches, pour that fresh iced tea I just made, and crank up the air conditioner! It's as close as I'm gonna' get to winter for another 174 days. But who's counting?

See you next month! Peace and love and all good things.

~ Judy

"In a world where you can be anything... be kind."

## The British Are Coming! Revolutionary Games Showcased At Griffith Morgan

Information Provided By  
The Pennsauken Historical Society

At the Griffith Morgan House on Sunday, Aug. 7, the Pennsauken Historical Society will be joined by the 1st Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers to teach games that the soldiers and civilians would have played during the era of the American Revolution!

The 1NJV is a regiment of re-enactors of British Loyalists, whose loyalty was pledged to King George III of England. When the soldiers of the American Revolution were not in active combat, they escaped boredom in one of two ways: by completing the daily chores necessary to live in the army camps; and by playing games that kept their minds occupied. These games relied on brainpower, using imagination, strategy, and more often than not, the cooperation of their fellow soldiers.

Our beautiful historic home has recently gone through an extensive series of restorations to bring the house back to its original glory. Come see the fresh paint, updated trimmery, and preeminently persevered artifacts of the 18th Century! During the soldiers' breaks from the gaming, we will be offering tours of the house to show what everyday life would have been like for everyday citizens.

Griffith Morgan House is located at 243 Griffith Morgan Lane, off River Rd. between Delair and Rt. 73. Admission and parking are free.

Do you enjoy history? Do you enjoy conversations about history? Do you like learning and practicing ways of life as done in decades and centuries past? Then the Pennsauken Historical Society wants you! We are always looking for new members and volunteers. Please email



The 1st Battalion of New Jersey Volunteers will join visitors at Pennsauken's historic Griffith Morgan House on Aug. 7.

pennsaukenhistoricalsociety@gmail.com if interested.

Visit the Griffith Morgan House or Pennsauken Historical Society pages or the group "Pennsauken History Forum" on Facebook for more details and directions, or e-mail pennsaukenhistoricalsociety@gmail.com.



Meet Our Dedicated and Supportive Staff

**Andrea L. Meyers**

NJ License No. 4540



Andrea grew up in Pennsauken where she attended high school and graduated in 1997. After graduating, she attended Elizabethtown College for two years as a biology major. She then transferred to Mercer County Community College where she graduated from the Funeral Service Program in 2001. Andrea began her internship with us in 2000 and received her funeral directors license in October of 2002.

Andrea volunteers with Woof Love Rescue, where she fosters dogs and helps find homes for unwanted, abandoned, stray and neglected dogs. She has fostered 53 dogs since 2013, providing them with shelter, love, needed medical care and socialization while trying to find their forever homes.

In her spare time, Andrea can be found at her daughter's softball tournaments and hanging out with family and friends.

Andrea currently lives in Mt. Laurel with her husband, Jack, and her two daughters, Madison and Vanessa, their dogs, Gunnar and Penny, and their cat, Shayna.



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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

A Pennsauken native who hopes to follow in his family's footsteps and become a firefighter, came back to his parents' home to continue his recovery after a serious spinal injury.

Gary Lyons, 32, who grew up in town and is a proud member of Pennsauken High School's Class of 2008, is a member of the Sixers Dunk Squad. Both his father and uncle were members of the Camden Fire Department; following in their footsteps, Gary was scheduled to graduate from the Camden County Fire Academy and continue the family tradition of public service. That was before he suffered a serious neck injury after a freak accident while playing basketball

## Pennsauken Native, Firefighter Hopeful Returns Home After Serious Injury

in late May.

"I suffered a crushed C5 spine playing basketball, a freak accident landing on the back of my neck," stated Lyons via his Instagram account. "This experience has been ALOT to say the least, with many challenges and obstacles ahead. If you know me, failure is not an option."

After surgery at Cooper Medical Center, doctors stated that he may not walk again. Lyons, who believes "I can't" is not an option, made amazing strides at Magee Rehabilitation Hospital.

"I progressed faster than everyone expected, including myself," said Lyons. "Doctors told me I wouldn't be able to walk, but I canceled that two weeks into my therapy."

And on June 29, first responders from both Camden and Pennsauken, as well members of the Sixers Entertainment Squad, welcomed Lyons back from rehab. Gary returned to his family's home to recuperate to cheers, applause, quite a few tears, and kisses from his dog, Cooper.

"It was a wash of emotions and tears. I wasn't expecting this," said Lyons. "It really means a lot. Words can't express it."

Lyons is focused on his recovery and is committed to his therapy.

"First is my health, to make sure everything is good on that front, getting my hands and motor skills better, walking and everything," explained Lyons. "Then I'll get back to the fire department and also work with my Sixers family as well."



Gary Lyons, a Pennsauken native who hopes to follow in his family's footsteps and become a firefighter, came back to his parents' home to continue his recovery after a serious spinal injury.

A GoFundMe campaign has been setup by his family to help defray medical

costs. To donate, visit <https://go.fund.me/d0dae9fc>.

## DEATHNOTICES Remembering A Longtime Pennsauken Resident

Mary Patricia Carroll, 58, of Pennsauken passed away on June 29 at the Samaritan Hospice in Mt. Holly, N.J.

She was born in 1963 in Philadelphia, Pa to the late



Carroll

Joseph and Janet (McKuen) Kinney. Mary was formerly a resident of Philadelphia, Fairmount, and later Junieta Park, before moving to Pennsauken.

Mary was a member of AMVETS Post 101, Pennsauken, AMVET Riders, and in Philly, the Junieta Park Boys and

Girls Club. She also loved her gardening.

She leaves behind to cherish her memory, her husband of 38 years, James R. Carroll, Jr.; her son, Nicholas Kanney; her stepsons, James, Joseph and Jason Carroll; her siblings, Janet Wasuita, Wally Kanney, and Joseph Kanney; her half-

sister, Donna Andrescavage and her husband Ed; her grandchildren, Natalie, Jason Jr. and Bryce; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Visitation and funeral service were held at Inglesby & Sons Funeral Home. Interment followed at Arlington Ceme-

tery in Pennsauken.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Mary's honor to the MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper at <https://foundation.cooper-health.org/give/gifts-to-honor-or-re-member/>.

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# inBooks

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- Pirate Ship "Float In" Movie Theater – Monday, 8/1; 6:00 p.m. For ages 2-5 (accompanied by parent/guardian). Enjoy a show from your very own (cardboard) pirate ship as we transform the library into a movie theater for the night! Limited seating; first come, first served; pirate ship seating will be for children ages 2-5 only.
- Color Club – Tuesdays, 8/2 & 8/9; noon. For all ages. Love to color and create?

## This September: A New Book Club for Adults

The Pennsauken Free Public Library's new book club will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss "The Push" by Ashley Audrain.

Audrain's debut novel, "The Push" was a New York Times, Sunday Times, and number one international bestseller, and a "Good Morning America" book club pick.

All are welcome to join, even if they haven't read the book. We'll select our next book at this meeting. Please email [events@pennsaukenlibrary.org](mailto:events@pennsaukenlibrary.org) if you would like more information, or to request a copy of the book from the library.

## August Library Events

Join our Youth Services Department and show us what you can make! All supplies will be provided.

- Intro to Tarot – Thursday, 8/4; 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. For ages 15-25. A full class on the basics of tarot and reading. A printable PDF deck will be sent to all registrants if needed, but feel free to use your own. This is a virtual program via Zoom. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/pfpltarot> to register.
- View and Chew – Friday, 8/5; noon. All ages. Join us for a family-friendly film! This week's film: "Muppet Treasure Island."
- Craft Corner – Saturday, 8/6 & 8/13; 11:00 a.m. For all ages. Children and families are invited to make a variety of crafts in the Youth Services area! All supplies will be provided.
- DIY Puffy Paint Clings – Monday, 8/8; 4:00 p.m. For ages 8-18. Create your own decorative clings that stick to a flat surface – water bottles, windows, laptops, just about anywhere – using colorful puffy paint.
- Adventure Aquarium Presentation – Thursday, 8/11; 2:00 p.m. For all ages. Dive into the world of oceans to learn about and meet some of the unique

creatures that call the ocean home with this interactive program with the Center for Aquatic Sciences!

- View and Chew – Friday, 8/12; noon. All ages. Join us for a family-friendly film! This week's film: "The Spongebob Movie."

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## inSports Hitting The Half Pipe At The Pennsauken Skate Park



Pennsauken Committeeman Marco DiBattista tests out the half pipe prior to the July 30 reopening on the town's newly renovated skate park, located at the Pennsauken Community Recreation Complex on Westfield Ave. Check out All Around Pennsauken on social media for photos from the event!

## PYAA SPORTS

### Fall Youth Sports Registration Ends This Month

Registration for Pennsauken Youth Athletic Activities (PYAA) fall football and cheerleading is held every Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to noon, at the PYAA Field House, 3501 Elm Ave., in Pennsauken. All participants must be registered by Thursday, Aug. 4. For more information, contact Coach Chris at (609) 332-9266 or Coach

Will at (856) 882-9377.

The Pennsauken Youth Soccer Club is closing registration for fall intramural soccer on Friday, Aug. 5. To sign up, visit [PYAASoccerNJ.com](http://PYAASoccerNJ.com).

Merchantville Pennsauken Little League is registering children for its fall season now through Aug. 16 at 5:00 p.m. To sign up, visit [MerchantvilleLittleLeague.org](http://MerchantvilleLittleLeague.org).

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